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The Green Thumb

A Newsletter of Extension Horticultural Activities and Events
For York County Extension Volunteers

Vol. 6, Issue 4
April, 2005

Calendar of Future Events

See Calendar on the last page for Current Events

May 3	4-H Mum Project, Registration Deadline
May 4, 6:30 pm	Plant Health Clinic, York-Warwick Dr, Edgehill Subdivision, Yorktown
May 7, 9:30-Noon	Learning Garden Plant Sale
May 11, 6:30 pm	Plant Health Clinic, Outrigger Ct, Creekside Landing Subdivision, Queens Lake
May 18, 12 n	HearSay Gardening Radio Show on WHRO 89.5 FM
May ?	Jr. Master Gardener Fun Run
May 25, 6:30 pm	4-H Mum Project, Orientation meeting, YC General Service building (more on Page 3)
June 1, 6:30 pm	4-H Mum Project, Horticultural training, York County General Service building
June 4, 9:30 am	Jr. 4-H Camp Adult & Teen Counselor training, Jamestown 4-H Center
June 21-26	Master Gardener College at Virginia Tech

For additions/corrections to the Calendar of Events contact Jody at 890-4940, or Byrdie Hawley at 898-6175 or E-mail dabhawley@cox.net (Put Green Thumb in the subject line). The deadline for the Green Thumb is ALWAYS the 15th of the month, no exception.

E-mail changes: If you have changes to any of the methods of communication to you please notify Jody. Jody will pass the word. We want to keep in contact with you. These changes will be posted to the weekly e-mails and will be in the Green Thumb.

Thursdays Work/Learn Day in the Learning Garden 9:30 – 11:30 a.m:

The first Thursday of each month we start with a meeting in the Environmental Services Building and then are in the garden, time permitting. We are busy getting ready for our **Plant Sale May 7, 9:30-Noon** and will need help in potting plants in addition to weeding and mulching the garden. If anyone has plants to donate, please place them on the potting bench behind the shed and make sure that you have **at least one labeled** – genus and species if you know it, but at least a plant name. We would prefer that the plants be dropped off on Thursday while we are there, but are happy to receive plants at any time.

Master Gardener Mission Statement

Our mission, as trained volunteers in partnership with the York County, Virginia Cooperative Extension Agent, is to provide horticultural educational opportunities to the public through research-based horticultural programs and activities to enhance our environment, lives and community.

www.ext.vt.edu

Extension is a joint program of Virginia Tech, Virginia State University, the U.S. Department of Agriculture, and state and local governments.

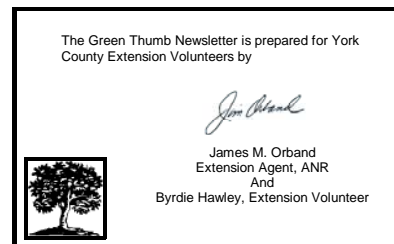
Virginia Cooperative Extension programs and employment are open to all, regardless, of race, color, religion, sex, Age, veteran status, national origin, disability, or political affiliation. An equal opportunity/affirmative action employer.

Notes from Jim

You know as a Master Gardener that you extend the resources of our office. You teach classes, respond to phone requests, coordinate programs, work with horticultural therapy, plan events, nurture the Learning Garden, coordinate office tasks, and so much more. Thank you for all that you do for our office and York County citizens. The York County Board of Supervisors with each county department recognizes their volunteers at an annual picnic. This years picnic will be on April 30 from 11:30 am - 2:00 pm. The location will be at Chisman Creek Park on a nice day or Grafton Middle School on a rainy day. Master Gardeners that were active volunteers in 2004 will find an invitation included with their Green Thumb this month. Thank you for all that you do. Plan to attend the picnic with your family or go with another Master Gardener. Enjoy the lunch and the many other planned activities. I look forward to working with you throughout the year. Thank you!

Each Master Gardener Unit can apply for two scholarships to Master Gardener College. Contact Terry Hanson at 872-9639.

Be sure to listen to "Gardening Hearsay" on April 20, 12:00–1:00 pm on WHRO – 89.5.



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Coordinators Comments: Spring is finally here. . .or at least that's what the calendar says!! The few warm days we've had were a good opportunity to start cleaning the garden without too much wear and tear on the muscles. Our programs this spring have been very successful and we continue to offer many opportunities for you to get involved. Most of the Interns have completed their 50 hours. . .now if they would just turn them in to Judy Lange! Everyone needs to get your hours caught up NOW. The deadline for MG college is April 15th and the sooner you turn them in, the sooner Judy can get them logged. Thank you again for everyone volunteering your time to make our MG programs so successful. The quarterly meeting is on Tuesday, April 12th, 9:30 at St. Luke's. Bring a plant for the Learning Garden sale and a plant for the plant swap, as well as a dish to share. Leave all plants outside the door. We will have a speaker and then have a pot luck lunch. Drinks will be provided. Hope to see all of you there. **Terry Hanson, MG Coordinator**

ANNUAL MASTER GARDENER RECERTIFICATION

Virginia Cooperative Extension requires Master Gardeners to obtain eight hours annually of recertification credit. This training obligation can be met through college credits, continuing education programs through the Virginia Master Gardener Association, lectures, participation in the annual Master Gardener College in June at Virginia Tech or completion of advanced-level Master Gardener training programs, such as Advanced Master Gardener Tree Steward.

Other examples include horticultural conferences, botanical garden workshops, VCE-sponsored training, other area MG programs and local events (county and municipal recreational programs). A more complete listing can be found in Chapter Seven of the VCE Master Gardener Coordinator Manual, which is kept in the extension office.

Master Gardener Hours need to be turned in ASAP: Email: dlange@infionline.net , send snail mail to: Judy Lange, 7 Robert's Landing Dr., Poquoson, VA 23662, given to Judy at the monthly meetings, or dropped off at the extension office.

A recap of the three categories of hours:

1. Community Outreach --- Use this when you are face to face with the public or working in the learning garden.
2. Continuing Education --- Acquiring additional knowledge about gardening. i.e. classes, visiting gardens etc.
3. Administration Support --- Everything else.

4-H Chrysanthemum Project 2005: On April 27 at 9:30 am, at the Extension Office, we will have a training session for those MG's interested in helping with the program. Please contact Rene' Kauder at 868-9606 or rbkauder@cox.net for more information and to sign up to help. Thanks! **Rene Kauder**

2005 Horticultural Extravaganza: Thanks to all the volunteers who made this year's Horticultural Extravaganza a wonderful success! We had a new location with more room, a new caterer, more classes, and more exhibitors... and all the evaluations said you did a GREAT JOB!

We want to especially thank all the committee chairs and their teams whose professionalism and pleasant demeanor (especially with rain and snow) made it a great day for all the attendees, speakers, and exhibitors.

Committee Chairpersons:

Registration:	Jackie Lohr	Finance:	Julie Rolston
Facilities:	Bill Calle	Equipment:	Jim Robertson
Posters:	Lily Lach	Copying:	Laurice Becker
Lunch:	Sybil Przypek	Hospitality Room:	Judy Lange
Moderators:	Karen Ward	Exhibitors:	Lynn Tertychny
Evaluations:	Martha Wilkins		

And as this year's Coordinator, I also want to thank Janine Casey (for helping us recreate the HE Binder), Jody Painter (for her patience and support) and Jim Orband (for picking me for the job and guiding me through it). I've already agreed to coordinate the 2006 Horticultural Extravaganza.

Here's a new suggestion we plan to implement for 2006 -- we're going to create a Curriculum Committee (similar to that used by the MG Training Coordinator) so we can set the date and location, develop the program, and locate the speakers by August 2005!

Watch for more details in the next Green Thumb. **Ellen Calle**

Horticultural Therapy Notes: Needed items: floral foam (can be used), wire, tape, etc. The April session will be **April 26, 2005 at 10:15 AM** at **York Convalescent Center**. Contact Brenda Bradshaw to volunteer: 898-4733 or email C.Bradshaw@att.net. **Brenda Bradshaw**

Arbor Day Celebration

Date: April 29, 2005 (Friday)

Place: Coventry Elementary School, 200 Owen Davis Blvd., Yorktown

If you would like to be involved in the celebration, please contact Lynn Tertychny at 865-2984 or vtertychny@cox.net. Thanks so much to those who have already volunteered! **Lynn Tertychny**

LEARN THE BASICS OF BUTTERFLY GARDENING AT FREE LECTURE ON SUNDAY, APRIL 17

The spring meeting of the Butterfly Society of Virginia on Sunday, April 17, 2005, at 2 p.m., will feature Linda Little's presentation, "Butterfly Gardening Made Simple." The basics of butterfly gardening, from the garden elements to include to plant selection and the needs of butterflies and moths, will be discussed by Ms. Little. The meeting will be at the Norfolk Botanical Garden in the Visitors Center's Rose Garden Hall. The Butterfly Society meetings are free and open to the public. Members of the Butterfly Society or Norfolk Botanical Garden with membership cards will be admitted to the Garden at no charge; regular admission fees to the Garden will apply for non-members.

Pruning Team: Pruning season has come to a successful close. The Team was very busy this year with 5 public clinics, 3 classes for MG trainees, 3 advanced training clinics, and 5 special pruning classes or demonstrations. Information on this important gardening skill was shared with 219 people.

The number of requests for the Pruning Team to teach in the community appears to be increasing, which says a lot about the group and their abilities.

I would like to thank everyone on the Pruning Team for their help and cooperation. It was wonderful to have members of the team volunteer for these many opportunities to spread the word about pruning. I am grateful for their help and all that I have been able to learn from them so far this year. Thank you.

Trudy Edwards

On-Site Plant Health Clinics: Please join us in neighborhood gardens as we help citizens identify proper and improper gardening techniques. Master Gardeners will assist in a brief review of existing problems. Afterwards, they will walk around with residents and their neighbors to observe, diagnose, and recommend remedies for landscape problems. A Question and Answer period will close the clinic. Clinics begin at 6:30pm and last for about 75 minutes. To assist with clinics, please contact Rebecca Cho at 565-7050 or tombeccacho@cox.net. **Rebecca Cho**

Wed., April 6	Chisman Woods, Seaford
Tues., April 12	Lakeside Forest, Grafton
Thurs., April 28	The Woods of Tabb, Tabb
Wed., May 4	Edgehill, Yorktown
Wed., May 11	Upper York County

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We're on the Web!

www.yorkcounty.gov/vce

April 2005

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
Mar 27 Easter Sunday	28 3:30 pm, On-site PHC pre-visit, York-Warwick Dr	29	30	31 7-8:30 pm, Conservation Landscaping Bay Friendly Practices, VIMS	April 1	2
3 Williamsburg Garden Symposium at Colonial Wmsbg	4 Wmsbg Garden Symposium continued; 6:30 pm, 4-H Lawn Mowing	5 Williamsburg Garden Symposium; continued	6 6:30 pm, Plant Health Clinic, Edgehill, www.yorkcounty.gov/vce	7	8 7-8:30 pm, Coventry Homeowners Assoc. meeting, Spring activities, Club House	9
10	11 6:30-8:00 pm 4-H Lawn Mowing, Graduation, St. Luke's Church	12 9:30-12noon Quarterly MG Meeting; 6:30 pm, Plant Health Clinic, Lakeside Forest, www.yorkcounty.gov/vce	13 9 am, On-site PHC pre-visit, Queens Lake	14	15	16 8:00-3:00pm, Gardening 2005, Christopher Newport University
17 <i>Butterfly Society Spring Meeting – 2:00 pm at Norfolk Botanical Gardens</i>	18 Jim @ annual Extension meeting Roanoke, VA	19 Jim @ annual Extension meeting Roanoke, VA 7pm, Board of Supervisors mtg.	20 12:00-1:00 WHRO-89.5 "GARDENING HEARSAY"	21 8 am-3:30 pm, "Looking Down the Garden Path", Lewis Ginter Gardens, www.chesterfield.gov	22	23
24	25	26 10:15 am, Hort Therapy – York Convalescent Center	27 9:30am, Training Session for 4-H Mums Project at the Extension Office	28 6:30 pm, Plant Health Clinic, Woods of Tabb, www.yorkcounty.gov/vce	29 Arbor Day Celebration	30 11:30 am-2 pm, Volunteer Recognition picnic, Chisman Park, or (Grafton MS in inclement weather)